

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A hardtop vehicle roof movable between a closed position in which it covers an interior space of a vehicle and a storage position, in which the roof (1) is disposed in a rear storage compartment, said hardtop vehicle roof (1) including rigid roof shells (2, 34) which, in the closed position, are disposed, in the longitudinal vehicle direction, one behind the other and wherein at least one of said roof shells (2, 4) comprises three sections, a center roof section (2a, 4a) and side sections (2b, 4b), which are pivotally connected to the respective center sections (2b, 4b), and said center sections (2b, 4b) being displaced in the deposit position upwardly relative to the respective side sections (2b, 4b), said side sections (2b, 4b) of the front and rear roof shells (2, 4) and the center sections (2a, 4a) of front and rear roof shells (2, 4) having outer surfaces which face downwardly in said storage positions and being displaced upwardly and received in the curved upwardly facing intermediate roof shell (3).
2. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 1, wherein said roof includes three roof shells (2, 3, 4).
3. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 2, wherein each of said front roof shell (2) and said rear roof shell (4) comprises three sections.

4. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 2, wherein in the storage position the front roof shell (2) is disposed between the rear roof shell (4) and the intermediate roof shell (3), which is disposed on top.

5. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 2, wherein said front roof shell (2) and said rear roof shell (4) are deposited in the storage position in the same orientation.

6. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 5, wherein in the storage position the outer roof surfaces of the front roof shell (2) and of the rear roof shell (4) face downwardly.

7. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 1, wherein said rear roof shell (4) comprises three sections, a center section (4a) and side sections (4b), said center section including a rear window panel.

8. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 1, wherein the side roof sections (2b, 4b) are pivotally connected to the intermediate roof shell (3) and the center sections (2a, 4a) of the roof shells (2, 4) are movable relative to the intermediate roof shell (3).

9. A hardtop vehicle roof according to claim 8, wherein the side roof sections (2b, 4b) are connected to the adjacent ends of the center roof shell (3) by pivot joints (A, B).